Premier Brantley delivers inspiring New Year's address

By Vernan George
St. Kitts-Nevis Observer

Premier of Nevis, Mark Brantley, delivered a thought-provoking and motivating New Year's address to residents of Nevis, calling on the nation to unite and embrace change.

"The winds of time have once again opened the door to another year. May 2026 bring you new opportunities, triumph over challenges, and experiences that fortify your faith. My prayer is that we find the determination to make this year better than the last, and that we face all adversities with courage and fortitude. May we begin this year with high spirits, clarity of mind, a singleness of purpose, and openness to new perspectives," Premier Brantley said.

He appealed to Nevisians to work together to build a stronger nation.

"In the year ahead, let us improve how we relate to each other, especially those with differing views. Let us suppress anger, intolerance, and bitterness, and embrace love, understanding, and respect. We must build a nation of mature citizens, where participation, accountability, inclusion, and responsibility are cornerstones of social interaction. A divided community cannot thrive; we must unite our talents and energies for the survival and growth of our nation."

Reflecting on his government's accomplishments in 2025, Premier Brantley said:

"It was an inspiring and productive year for our island. We registered significant economic growth, enhanced social safety nets for vulnerable citizens, and expanded support for students at all levels. Primary and secondary students gained access to technology through free laptops, and scholarship opportunities increased for studies abroad. We improved healthcare, food security, youth and gender empowerment, housing, and infrastructure. Employment rose by 3%, financial services registrations increased by 30%, and water projects, including drilling and mapping, progressed across the island. The solar-powered desalination plant in Butlers became operational, roads were constructed and rehabilitated, and our national security apparatus was upgraded, with a modern 911 dispatch unit, new K9 dogs, and the first phase of the radar system installed."

COURTESY PHOTO
Premier of Nevis, Mark Brantley

Looking ahead, he outlined key projects planned for 2026:

"This year will consolidate our gains and lay a strong foundation for future growth. Economic indicators are trending upwards. We anticipate signing the geothermal drilling contract in Q1, continuation of water drilling, construction of 34 affordable homes, sale of 134 lots at Garners Estate, acceleration of the Prospect chicken broiler project, construction of the Bureau of Standards, commencement of the airport project, resumption of the Alexandra Hospital Wing project, introduction of critical hospital services, production of a movie starring actor Tay Diggs, and completion of road rehabilitation and the second phase of the radar system on Saddle Hill."

He encouraged residents to embrace change while reaffirming his government's commitment to the proposed South Coast development, called Destiny.

"We are at a critical crossroads in our island's development. We must grow our economy rapidly to deliver better lives for our people. Our youth need jobs, and our graduates need opportunities. The Destiny project is an innovative initiative aimed at diversifying the economy. Fear cannot paralyse us; we must step boldly into our collective future, infused with hope rather than fear. Leadership is not always easy, but my government will make the tough decisions necessary to ensure we thrive in a challenging global environment."

Concluding his address, Premier Brantley urged citizens to embrace the new year with resilience, faith, and love.

"Let us overcome challenges, multiply our blessings, and approach 2026 with pride and purpose. Dare to dream big, act boldly, and demonstrate the finest qualities of citizenship."

Antigua and Barbuda release statement on deal with U.S.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda considers it appropriate to clarify the facts regarding its engagement with the United States on the possible acceptance of a very limited number of third-country nationals, including refugees.

In the interest of accuracy, transparency, and public confidence, the Government sets out below the relevant facts and context.

Antigua and Barbuda has not entered into any binding agreement with the United States to accept deportees or refugees.

What exists is a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding proposed by the United States, as part of its global efforts to share responsibility for refugees already present in its territory. Antigua and Barbuda was approached by the United States, along with more than one hundred governments worldwide, including several within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), to consider this non-binding arrangement.

The United States is today the country that hosts the largest number of refugees from across the world—individuals who cannot be returned to their countries of origin because doing so would expose them to serious harm, persecution, or grave reprisals. In response to this humanitarian reality, the United States has sought the cooperation of other governments to share the burden, by accepting such non-criminal refugees as they are able to do so safely and lawfully. Many countries have already agreed to this non-binding understanding.

PUBLIC NOTICE: We are pleased to share the excellent news that Prof. Dr. Charles McWilliams has been duly accepted and officially registered in Ecuador's National System of Higher Education Information (SNIESE) as Medico Naturopata (Medical Naturopath). This important recognition authorizes him to teach at Ecuadorian universities, legally practice Natural Medicine, and fully exercise all professional, academic, and clinical rights pertaining to his credentials within the country. This milestone not only honors Dr. McWilliams' distinguished career and expertise, but also strengthens our institution's academic standing and commitment to excellence in higher education and integrative health sciences.
Dr Carlos Jaramillo Ecuadorean representative Jan. 6, 2026

Información Personal

Identificación: AA0200240
Nombres: MC WILLIAMS CHARLES HENRY
Género: MASCULINO
Nacionalidad: ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA
Imprimir Información

Titulo(s) de tercer nivel de grado

Título	Institución de Educación Superior	Tipo	Reconocido Por	Número de Registro	Fecha de Registro	Área o Campo de Conocimiento	Observación
MEDICO NATUROPATA	ESCUELA PANAMERICANA DE MEDICINA NATURAL DE SAINT KITTS Y NEVIS	Extranjero	ESCUELA SUPERIOR POLITECNICA ECOLOGICA AMAZONICA	1035R-08-3805	2008-06-24		

EL NUEVO ECUADOR
Punto de Atención al Usuario: Whymper E7-37 y Alpallana, edificio Delfos, Quito
Edificio Matriz: Av. Amazonas N34-451 y Av. Atahualpa Quito - Ecuador. Código Postal: 170507, Quito - Ecuador
Teléfono: (593 2)-023961400

Prof. [Dr. of Med.] Charles H. McWilliams, Licensed Naturopath St. Kitts/Nevis, Idaho (USA), Ecuador
Newcastle, NEVIS - (869) 469-9564